# BY CHRIST WE DO BELIEVE IN GOD

"...BY HIM DO BELIEVE IN GOD, THAT RAISED HIM UP FROM THE DEAD, AND GAVE HIM GLORY; THAT YOUR FAITH AND HOPE MIGHT BE IN GOD"

(1 PETER 1:21)

Reader, God's people, those who *shall* be given life to both hear and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, know by experience that the Lord has the words of eternal life. They know by experience that Salvation is found in Him and no one else. Indeed, all those given to the Lord Jesus Christ by the Father are kept by Him, for He preserves them to that blessed expected end [JEREMIAH 29:11].

And where you find *those* kept by the Lord's preserving power, you'll find *those* who persevere in Him.

You see "...we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end" (HEBREWS 3:14).

And those partakers of Christ that persevere unto the end are very blessedly described in 1st Peter chapter 1, as those who "...by Him do believe in God, that raised Him up from the dead, and gave Him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God" (1 PETER 1:21).

Beloved, rejoice! For it is by Him, by Christ, that ye do believe in God.

You see beloved, our *own* faith, on its best day, is still mixed with doubt—but the faith of the Lord Jesus Christ, as a man, as our representative, is a perfect faith that perfectly believes God, without doubting. You see, it is by Him, by His faith beloved, that we are justified. It is *by Him* beloved that we shall be saved "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (EPHESIANS 2:8). AMEN!

**PASTOR** 

# **JUSTIFIED IN CHRIST**

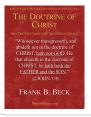
"BEING JUSTIFIED FREELY BY HIS GRACE THROUGH THE REDEMPTION THAT IS IN CHRIST JESUS" (ROMANS 3:24)

We should be in a bad condition indeed, if our salvation was suspended on conditions of our own performing. God's everlasting love, His decree of election, and the eternal covenant of redemption, are the three hinges, on which the door of man's salvation turns. When man fell from God, infinite justice put a lock upon the door: a lock, which nothing but the golden key of Christ's blood and righteousness can open. The Holy Ghost (if I may venture to use so familiar a comparison) is, as it were, the omniscient keeper of the door; and He lets no souls in, but such as He himself has washed and justified and sanctified in the name of our Lord Jesus, and by His own efficacious grace. I should as soon expect to be saved by my sins, as to be saved by my good works. [PASTOR] Augustus Toplady

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"When I cry unto thee, then shall mine enemies turn back: this I know; for GOD is for me" (PSALM 56:9)



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# HIS CHILDREN BEGAN TO HISS!

"FOR DO I NOW PERSUADE MEN, OR GOD? OR DO I SEEK TO PLEASE MEN? FOR IF I YET PLEASED MEN, I SHOULD NOT BE THE SERVANT OF CHRIST"

(GALATIANS 1:10)

Since I last wrote, I have preached in Abingdon Great Church, on Christmas evening. I preached the truth, I trust, to a very crowded congregation, supposed to be (sitting and standing, who were able to get in) about 5,000 people. I pleased the believers; but very much displeased the carnally-minded, who were never before so puzzled and confounded in all their lives! I spoke the truth faithfully, and so as all could hear; but I had no idea that the gospel would have given so much offence! It is the truth that offends and disturbs Satan's kingdom! The neighboring clergymen, who are in darkness, say of me, "Away with such a fellow from the earth; it is not fit that he should live!" My mind is not moved by the persecution. I believe if God has a work for me to do, I shall do it, in spite of the devil and all his children! Nature is not changed, the gospel is not changed, and Christ is not changed. What reason is there why they should not hate the truth now, as much as in the time of the apostles? I never saw any fruits of my labors until I roused and disturbed the 'roaring lion'. When, through the grace of God, I began to disturb [Satan's] kingdom, I soon found that his children began to hiss! The world and Satan hate believers. The Pharisees hate me the most. I cut off all their rotten props, and all their fleshly devotion!It is not coming near to the truth, it is not the 'mere letter' of the gospel, that will convert men; but the

Holy Spirit. Make the Word of God your study. Pin your faith to no man's views! I scarcely read any other book. Beware of those who want to exalt man in any manner.

[PASTOR] WILLIAM TIPTAFT

# IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

"GOD IS A SPIRIT: AND THEY THAT WORSHIP HIM MUST WORSHIP HIM IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH"

(JOHN 4:24)

Here are two principles of worship without which all worship of God is vain. God must be worshipped in spirit—heart worship—as opposed to mere forms and ceremonies, going through the motions with body and lip service, etc. If the heart does not pray it, the prayer is not accepted. If the heart does not sing it, the song is not accepted. If the heart does not believe it, it is vain to profess it. Those who worship God, must worship in spirit [ROMANS 10:10].

Those who worship God in spirit must also worship Him in truth. God has revealed Himself in His Word of truth as who He is; how He saves; by whom He saves; the way in which any one must approach unto Him to worship. All worship that is contrary to truth is vain worship. All who worship God must worship Him in truth. Someone has said, "How astonishing is the fact, that man dares to introduce his miserable inventions to deform the scriptural simplicity of divine; as if God who makes all things perfect, had, in this most important institution, forgotten to direct the use of altars—magnificent vestment—pomp and ceremonies. When will man, with child-like simplicity, follow gospel rules?"

PASTOR BRUCE CRABTREE

# FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved. He that believeth on Him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God" (JOHN 3:16-18)